

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 593
By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize Colonel Donald R. Deering on the occasion of his retirement from the National Guard Association of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who in their years of military service have performed with uncommon devotion and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Donald R. Deering of Goodlettsville is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for eleven years as the Executive Director of the National Guard Association of Tennessee, from which position he is now retiring; and

WHEREAS, Donald Deering enlisted in the Tennessee Army National Guard in July 1952 as a Private and retired on October 1, 1994, at the rank of Colonel; and

WHEREAS, prior to his retirement from the Tennessee Army National Guard, Colonel Deering was presented with the distinguished Legion of Merit award for his meritorious service; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Deering's service in several command and staff positions during his 42-year membership in the Tennessee Army National Guard is evidence of his outstanding leadership, vision, and perseverance. He commanded Troop A of the 1/230th Armored Cavalry Squadron and the 3/109th Armored Battalion in Lebanon, served as Mobilization Chief during Operation Desert Shield, and served as Acting Chief of Staff during several large annual training periods at Fort Stewart, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, during his long career as a soldier, Colonel Deering also worked as a Service Manager and Service Director for several large automobile dealerships in Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his retirement from the Tennessee Army National Guard, Colonel Deering was serving as the Commandant of the Tennessee Military Academy in Smyrna; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Deering exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family, community, and country that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his valiant military career notwithstanding, Colonel Deering is most grateful for the constant love and support of his wife, the former Toni J. Gambill of Old Hickory, and his son, Michael Ray Deering; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Deering's outstanding service evinces his great love for the principles that have made this State and nation great; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable service in the Tennessee Army National Guard and the National Guard Association of Tennessee, Colonel Donald R. Deering has demonstrated the utmost loyalty, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the soldiers under his command, his fellow officers, and his superior officers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Colonel Donald R. Deering our heartfelt thanks for his years of loyal service to the Tennessee Army National Guard and the National Guard Association of Tennessee, and wish him every happiness in retirement and continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.